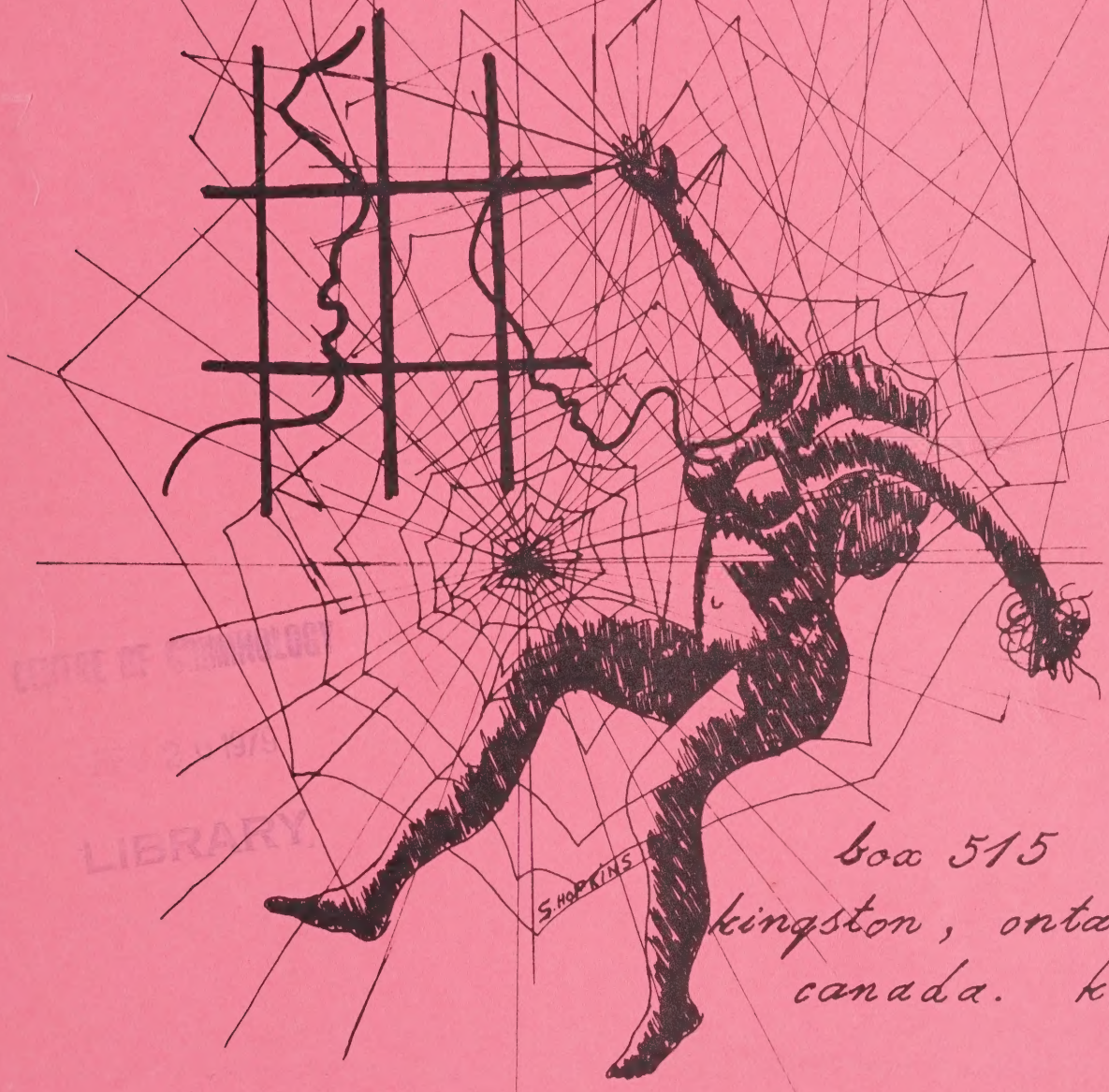
TIGHTWIRE

publications



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SEPT./OCT./NOV./DEC.

1978

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TIGHTWIRE Volume 111, Number 5,6
Sept./ Oct./ Nov./ Dec. 1978

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Editors:	Lynne Cassidy	OUTGOING
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Typist:	Debbie Peet	

TIGHTWIRE is published six times a year by TIGHTWIRE Publications, Prison for Women, Kingston, Ontario. The contents are compiled by the inmate staff from a variety of sources: their own writings, those of other prisoners (both from the Prison for Womin and other jails), newspaper and magazine articles and submissions from outside contributors. The views expressed are those of the particular writers or artists, which may or may not conform to the opinions of the Administration and the Canadian Penitentiary Service.

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MEMBER COSMEP
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BOX 703 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94101

THE EDITORIAL LAST WORD

With this issue, Cass (Lynne Cassidy) and I are singing our swan song. That is, we are making our way out of here (YAY!). Cass is leaving in December and I'm going in January. We hope you have enjoyed our issues this past year as much as we have putting them together for you.

Taking our place are Judy Dupuis and Debbie Peet, both newcomers who have taken to the job like fish to water. They've worked with us on this issue and have been a huge help while they learned the ins and outs of getting a TIGHTWIRE out.

Needless to say, the transition has caused a delay in having the issue out on time, but we hope you'll bear with us and feel it was worth waiting for! Goodbye to all from your editors,

Sharon Murray
Lynne Cassidy

Dear Friend,

As 1978 draws to an end, we find ourselves facing 1979 with even more inflation, but best of all someone decided to have an International Childrens Year.

As adults it is hard for us to understand children, but then were we not children ourselves?

Children do have rights as people too. They have the right as human beings to express themselves and to be heard. I think that it is about time we did sit down and listen to them more often.

Why do we misunderstand our children? Were we not children too? Remember what you thought when your parents told you what to do? What were you thinking when your mother told you, Johnny, do not do that or I will tell your father? Did you not want to answer back? We all think that children do not or rather could possibly not understand certain compilcated things. Did we give them a chance to try? Did we even bother to explain? What about the famous BOOGIE MAN? I will tell you one thing, I was threatened with that phrase more than once , sure I listened for a while; but he has not gotten me yet. Personally I think that he is full of baloney. All these ideas of boogie men, the stork etc. do you not think it was time we sat down and started telling it as it is? You just tell my son that the stork brought him here and see what he tells you. He will make a laughing stock out of you. He knows more about the facts of life than I ever did at his age.

In this ever growing world of ours, with it's modern this and modern that why can we not take time to look at our children as just plain human beings like ourselves, and not objects to suite our fancy. Why even before Johnny is born dad is deciding that he should follow in his foot steps, be he doctor, lawyer or indian chief. Does Johnny really want to become like someone else or does he want to be himself??? What if he does not want to go to University, or maybe he wants to go to one where he will not have to compete with dads previous track record. Did you ever think about that one dad? Maybe he just wants to be an individual. How about letting him be himself? He will probably thank you for it. I am quite sure that he will come to you when he needs a friend.

What about child beating? What kind of human being can beat on another human being who can not even defend himself? Can a child of a few months old tell you where he hurts? It is not by hitting him that he will stop crying. Try love, it can and does work miracles. Besides we all need love and understanding.

When a man and woman get married, if they want children, they should be ready for them. They should be able to share all the love they have for eachother with a third party, and if they can not do so or are not ready to do so let them wait. Why bring a child into a world of hate? At least surround him by love, after all, was not love meant to be shared?

We are blessed with children, so many people can not have any. So the ones that we do have, should we not love and protect them? Think of all the children in this world that are abandoned, beat, starved, deprived of parental love and guidence. Why, even here in our so called Advanced Society there are children walking the streets lonely and hungry. Care for your children, they are precious. One day they may be taken away from you, maybe it only by a person they love.

Show todays child love, he is the parent of tomorrow. Give a little of yourself to them and you will receive a lot more back. So in 1979 , no matter where you are or who you are or even where you are(even in prison) love your child. They are worth it. Is it really so hard to drop them a line or two to tell them just how much you love them. Is it hard to say I Love You And I Miss You Something Awful????

Let us give more time to our children in 1979.

Fond thoughts to you all,
With lots of love
The Editor

September 20, 1978

Peter A. Kneale
Parkside High School
Dundas, Ontario
L9H 258

Dear Sharon:

Please find enclosed a cheque to cover the subscription cost to your publication Tightwire. I intend to use your magazine as resource material for my law students, and hopefully provide an insight into the correctional system at work.

Also, I wish you would mention my name to one of your excellent and extremely well qualified instructors, Mr. Ian Lyle. I'm sure that you and your fellow colleagues are enjoying Ian's pleasant disposition and professional manner in providing coaching and recreational activities.

Thanks again.

Yours truly,
Peter A. Kneale
Business Education Dep

September 22, 1978

Gail Davey
3122 Hurontario Street
Apt. #506
Mississauga, Ontario
L5B1N8

Dear Sir:

I am a grade 12 student at T.L. Kennedy S.S. and I am doing a seminar on Canadian prisons and penetentaries. I was wondering if you can send me any information that might be useful to me on this topic. Like, how the prisoners feel they are being treated? What the prisons are like? Or whatever you may have.

Thank you for your help, I'd appreciate it.

Gail Davey

****

Note: Anyone with suggestions and ideas for this young lady can feel free to write her. Ed.

Dear Sisters of Tightwire,

I don't think I could come up with a better way to describe your magazine than just plain incredible!! I have read many joint papers before, Joyceville, Collins-bay, Kingston, but I have never been really head first in one, until I pickee up a copy, by chance of Tightwire.

All of the articles seem placed, in just that perfect place, where, it seems to have grown from. Susan Hopkins deserves just as much credit ,for a well drawn comic. It's really too bad I haven't been able to get any back issues. I'm sure any of the future ones will be just as good! Though there isn't any girly pictures in it, I still read it like I would a good Penthouse.

Anyway, I have the names of two more inmates who really liked mine, so I'll let you send them one of their own. Guy Chretien and George Reid, I'm sure they'd appreciate it. Enclosed is a small poem I wrote.

Keep up the good job.
Love respectfully,
Guy Prince

HOLY ORDER OF MANS

P.O. BOX 662 FORESTVILLE, CALIF. 95436

October 26, 1978

TIGHTWIRE Publications
Box 515
Kingston, Ontario
Canada K7L 4W7

Dear Editors:

We would like to offer these two books for advertisement in TIGHTWIRE.

Books may be ordered from:

Publications Department
Holy Order of MANS
P.O. Box 14606
San Francisco, CA 94116

THE GOLDEN NUGGETS - One hundred and forty-eight commentaries on all aspects of spiritual life; practical guidelines.
YOKE OF LIGHT - A small book of poetry - witha light touch.

These are available to all prisoners anywhere - free of charge, we pay the postage. These new hard bound editions are exclusively for prisoners; they cannot be bought or sold.

We are listed in INSIDE OUT, Prison-Ashram Project of the Hanuman Foundation and have gotten many requests for books and our correspondence course.

Feel free to qupte from these two books.

In joy,

Br. Michael McHugh

Brother Michael McHugh
Director of Educations/Publications

Note: The books are available at TIGHTWIRE for looking over before deciding to order. Ed.

The Editor,
Scrapaper,
Box 60, Mission, B.C.
V2V 4L8

November 7th, 1978

Editors, Lynne and Sharon

Hi Gals;

Received three copies of Tightwire this morning. The fiends were waiting so now I only have one copy which I will have to guard carefully or it will walk as well. Good to see that you people are still publishing. As for getting behind, well, aren't we all.

Your latest issue of Tightwire is a real work of art. I am enjoying it with each page. I haven't finished reading it yet, but I will tonight as I snuggle in against another cold and wet dreary evening. Your mag is taking great shape, but I guess that can only be expected as some great shapes are working on it and putting it together. (smile) But in all seriusoness, there is a great improvement over the months. As a fellow editor, I always tend to look for improvements that I can make in our mag and I guess we are our own worst critics but as a fellow editor, I say, "You've done a good job."

Enclosed, the recent news on 'Ace' Hamel, the man who I have followed all summer and fall now. Seems that the poor man is just not able to make it on his own. Wish there was something I could do to assist and feel so damned helpless in a situation like this but can only hope that someone out there will turn around and help this old guy. Ever think of the money that has been spent on this guy to KEEP him in prison and how LITTLE is being spent on keeping him OUT? Makes me sad...to say the least.

Keep the presses rolling....looking forward to your next issue.

Regards to Danise.

Love & Peace

Jack

Jack Wonnacott,
Editor/Scrapaper

ACE DEALS SELF BACK IN PRISON

TORONTO (CP) — Victor Phillip (Ace) Hamel, Canada's oldest escaped prisoner last spring when he walked away from Joyceville penitenitary, is back in prison.

The 82-year-old man, who was paroled from the Joyceville penitentiary near Kingston, Ont., in July, has been charged with shoplifting. His parole has also been cancelled.

His friend, Beatrice Hynes said he had been required to stay two nights a week at a half-way house and was allowed out five nights.

She said he went back to the house on Wednesday instead of Tuesday as required.

He telephoned her when he found there was no room for him at the house.

"I think maybe he was a bit confused," she added.

Hamel, who was born in Toronto, has been in and out of prisons since 1918.

September 19, 1978

Tom Guatto
Box A
Dorchester, N.B.
EOA 1MO

Dear Lynn:

I had recently had the pleasure of reading a copy of your paper and can only extend my gratitude for a well put together publication. I sincerely hope that you and the rest of the ladies on your staff keep up the good work.

I myself am presently doing time, although I shall be transferred to the West Coast in the very near future. Being somewhat of an amateur writer I can always appreciate well written works of others.

While trying not to be too presumptuous, I am enclosing three of my previous works hoping that you may enjoy them. If you desire to print any or all of them, please feel free to do so.

Allow me again to thank you for your entertaining and informative publication. To you all, take care, Be Happy (as much as circumstances will allow) and Keep The Faith!!!!

I Remain;
A Faithfull Reader,

Tom Guatto

Nov. 21, 1978

Dolph Fursee
P.O. Box 222
Fortuna Ca. 95540

To The Editor:

Thank you, J.D., for your note of appreciation, relative the draft material I send to P4W.

We send whatever is handy as there is someone who is interested, no matter the contents of a book or magazine.

In your new job you will need much of what the owl suggests (patience). See enclosed.

Cordially,

Dolph Fursee

****

Nov. 23, 1978

Secretary Treasurer
Box 278
Yellowknife Correctional Centre
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Editor:

If possible, we would appreciate your cooperation in regards to sending us a copy of your edition called "Tightwire". We are seriously thinking of becoming full time subscribers, but would like to know the cost, preferably per year. We are not aware of how many you publish a year, or exactly what your editions contain.

If you could send us this information along with any information I have neglected to ask and a copy of your latest edition, we would be forever grateful. Thankyou for your cooperation.

Sincerely Yours,

Secretary Treasurer of
The Inmate Committee

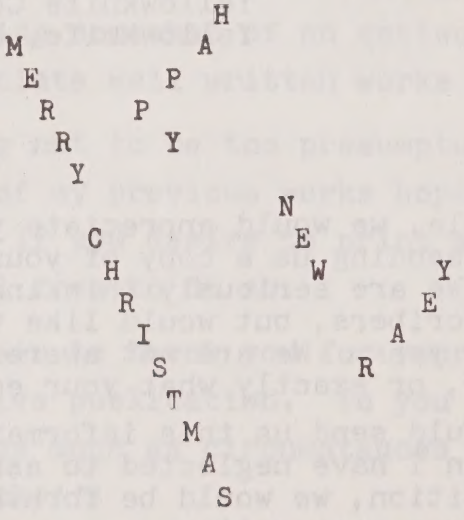
DECEMBER 7th 1978

2:55 pm

DEAR SHAWN, CASS, SUE, JUDY, AND DEBBIE:

YOU ARE ALL BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE AND I WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE NICE CARD.....!!! NO!! I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THINKING OF ME AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. AND I WILL NOW, MOST CERTAINLY, HAVE A NICE CHRISTMAS...AND A DAMN GOOD NEW YEAR!!

AGAIN THANK YOU FOR THE CARD, AND WHATEVER GOD IT IS THAT YOU AS A PERSON BELIEVE IN I PRAY THAT HE WILL GUILD YOUR WAY IN THE COMING NEW YEAR.



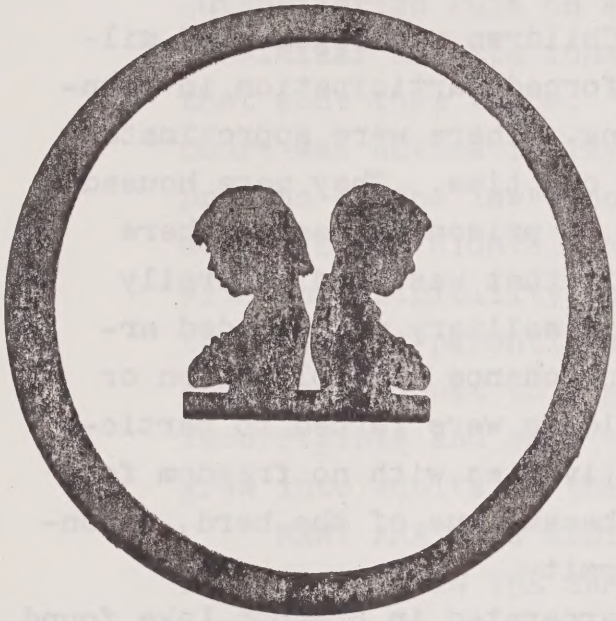
Yours With Best Wishes

Julius

PS I love all of you!!

THE MAKING OF A (POLITICAL) PRISONER

by: Dale Berranger



Today our Prisons hold some of the most dangerous men and women this country has ever known. The majority of these Prisoners have spent most of their lives in restricted or confined environments. They spent their early years on Reserves, in group foster homes, or in so-called "training schools". They went on to "Correctional Institutions", Prisons, and Penitentiaries.

These men and women are so dangerous because they realize, and have realized for quite some time now, that they are Political Prisoners. They were denied the right to grow up as individuals free from dictatorial authoritarian rule. They are the victims of a government experiment that failed. They are the ones being forced to bear the consequences of what was then billed as the cure all for "Juvenile Delinquency" and "Incorrigibility". THEY WERE CREATED BY A SOCIETY WHO TOOK OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR LIVES WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN AND MISMANAGED IT ATROCIOUSLY.

To understand the making of a (Political) Prisoner we must realize the effects of imprisonment on a child. In the early and middle sixties (and long before) children in British Columbia were sent to the Brannon Lake "School" for boys on Vancouver Island. (Most Provinces had similar or worse "training schools"). The "offenses" that warranted the com-

mitment of a child to one of these child prisons ranged from "Incorrigibility" to armed robbery. Children were even voluntarily committed by parents who believed the government propoganda that Brannon Lake was a private government school that dealt humanely with problem children.

Brannon Lake Prison For Children was regimented militarilistic environment with forced participation in twenty-four hour planned programing. There were approximately 400 boys in the prison at any one time. They were housed in open dormatories that held 50 prisoners each. There was a Solitary Confinement Unit that was used liberally for punishment. Confinement in solitary was decided arbitrarily by the guards with no chance of explanation or appeal by the child. All children were forced to participate in school, work, and activities with no freedom for individual development. You became one of the herd, a nonentity in a sea of cold conformity.

Many of the children incarcerated in Brannon Lake found it difficult and frustrating in trying to suppress their personalities and individual development. This frustration often resulted in explosive behavior which quickly brought further punishment and oppression. This treatment was continued by the authorities of Brannon Lake until a child began to develop a hate for society. HE BEGAN TO SERIOUSLY AND SINCERELY HATE AUTHORITY BECAUSE OF HIS FORCED CONFINEMENT IN AN AUTHORITARIAN ENVIRONMENT THAT MEANT COMPLETE SUBJUGATION BY THE STATE. A state that suppressed children with physical and mental torture.

It was during these early years of child and teenage development that the (Political) prisonerformed, justifiably, through experience, his concept of the Canadian system of Justice. THEY PREACHED DEMOCRACY AND JUSTICE BUT THEY PRACTICED FACISM AND DICTATORSHIP.

The Brannon Lake Prison for Children was accomplishing one objective; it was ensuring that the Prison Industry would have a good "crop" of Prisoners for the future expansion of the industry.

In order to fully understand the effects of dictatorial authoritarian rule on a child incarcerated in Brannon Lake or similar institutions we must also look at the procedure that sent them there. A child brought before a juvenile court was automatically assumed guilty. There wasn't "due process of the law", no assumption of innocence: THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY RIGHTS. Many went before the court charged with incorrigibility, an"offence" that could be broadly interpeted. A parentless, or "ward of the court" child who could not adjust to a group foster home was often branded incorrigible and sent to prison. Many of these children grew into adults in the prison industry and are still there.

MANY ARE DRUG ADDICTS AND WILL SOON BE SENT BACK TO BRANNON LAKE IN THE SAME MANNER THEY WERE SENT THERE YEARS AGO. The effect that this will have on these people will be disastrous. The Bennett regime is still experimenting with human lives. They are fully aware of what the consequences of their new "drug rehabilitation program" will be. They are trying to speed up their manufacturing process for the prison industry.

THERE WILL NOT BE A DRUG PROBLEM WHEN ALL OF THE ADDICTS ARE IN PRISON. Will an addict committed to Brannon Lake for drug treatment be charged with the criminal offense of escaping custody if he or she leaves? This was the procedure they used to manufacture Prisoners from the children who were committed there before. If a child escaped custody. The Bennett regime is aware of the success they had when they sent

children to the Lake. They successfully manufactured hundreds of Prisoners (thousands across Canada). Now that the public has demanded that children no longer be sentenced to child prisons as often as before the Bennett regime had to find a new source of supply. (Children are still being sent to prison but the manufacturing process has been slowed down).

Brannon Lake Prison For Children was the first step in Manufacturing Prisoners for the prison industry. It is not completely certain by this author if the government intentionally planned a system that would guarantee turning children into adult Prisoners or if this resulted through ignorance. It is fact, however, that the government continued this manufacturing process after they became aware of the consequences this had on the children.

There were many children who started in Brannon Lake and were eventually sentenced to the Penitentiary without ever having been released to the street. This manufacturing process generally took approximately four years and involved three or four stages. Running away from the Lake often resulted in sentencing to the Haney "Correctional" Institute. Internal "offences" or escape from H.C.I. resulted in sentencing to Oakalla Prison Farm or, in some cases, directly to the Penitentiary. A serious infraction of the rules or escape while imprisoned in Oakalla saw the child, who approximately four years ago was admitted to the Brannon Lake "School" For Boys for "rehabilitation", imprisoned in the B.C. Pen. And now, ten years later, these men are "so dangerous" that they have to be locked in Solitary Confinement 23 1/2 hours per day.

KNOW YOUR ADVERSARY

Wherever madness exists, wherever the cries of the helpless are heard, there you find the tall dark figure of moral society, waiting, watching in shadows, prepared to do battle with the poor and middle class people. The seen and the unseen.....

This may seem brash and very antisociety. But they say the truth never hurts? Well maybe some of us know different and some don't. But the truth is a very important part of your going back to the streets again and staying there.

The truth is this: Even if you know it or not society put you where you are now and they'll keep you there too if you don't learn about them now. One thing I've always believed in is KNOW YOUR ADVERSARY. Once you do that you know how to avoid him, you know how to become his equal or to bypass him, or even to destroy if it were ever a need.

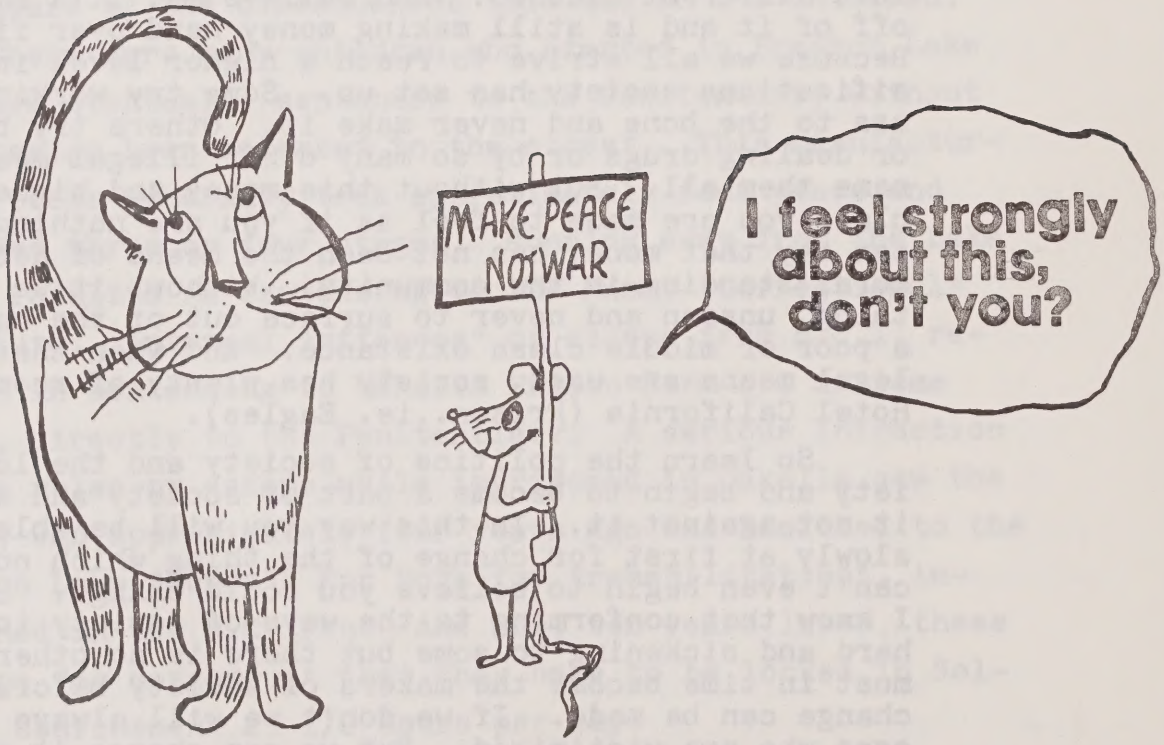
You see, society has made our economic separation into different classes. And believe me, it's made a mint off of it and is still making money hand over fist. Why? Because we all strive to reach a higher level in the classifications society has set up. Some try working their ass to the bone and never make it. Others try by stealing or dealing drugs or by so many other illegal means I can't name them all. But without this money and higher living class you are made to feel as if you are nothing. And none can say that money has not been the means of declaring your moral standing in the community. Without it we are as nothing, unseen and never to surface out of the hardships of a poor or middle class existance. And when these not so legal means are used, society has plenty of room at the Hotel California (Prison..ie. Eagles).

So learn the politics of society and the laws of society and begin to become a part of society and work with it not against it. In this way you will be able to work slowly at first for change of the thing which now you can't even begin to believe you could change. But you can. I know that conforming to the ways of society today can be hard and sickening to some but there is no other way. We must in time become the makers of society before any real change can be made. If we don't we will always be the ones who are victimized. But we can change it all so that none will ever be under the other's heel again.

If we don't, moral society will become more seen and more greedy than it is now. It will take many of us if not all of us to give it this one try and make it work.

SO ON THE HOPES FOR US ALL TO LIVE AND REALLY BE FREE, I ASK YOU TO TRY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. IT WILL TAKE US ALL.

Robert E. Collins
148-287
P.O. Box 45699
Lucasville, Ohio
45699



TALES FROM OAKALLA

In November, 1977, both the Vancouver Sun and the Province, two West Coast papers, printed stories about conditions at Oakalla Women's Correctional Centre. As a result, an investigation was begun in December by the Provincial government. Madame Justice Patricia Proudfoot was sworn in on January 9, 1978 as Commissioner of the inquiry. For the next several months the commission heard testimony on all aspects of the incarcerated female offender in B.C.: staff, discipline, co-education, programmes, visits, mail and medical care.

The commission's final report was issued in April, 1978 and included several recommendations to improve conditions at Oakalla.

The following exerpts are from the original newspaper articles which broke the story in 1977. The first is from the Vancouver Sun, Nov. 19, 1977, and was written by Gerry Bellett:

> A prison doctor at Oakalla Regional Correctional Centre sat drinking tea and failed to go to a female inmate as she lay dying, according to a former matron at the provincial government institution.
>
> Other former and present staff members of prison's women's section interviewed by the Vancouver Sun alleged that:
>
> - A document was falsified to conceal an inmate who had bolted while out on a pass.
> - A former inmate was allowed in off the street to use Oakalla as a free "hotel".
> - Sex acts took place between male guards and female prisoners.

- The Case of the Dying Drug Addict:

Matilda Joseph, also known as Tilly Rose Tom, was a heroin addict who died in her cell March 9, 1974, after she shot a syringe full of a drug, probably heroin, into her arm.

An inquest presided over by New Westminister Coroner Doug Jack found the 26 year old woman died accidentally of an overdose--and attached no blame--but the jury recommended prison staff should be better trained to handle drug addicts.

Dixie Palmer, a matron (female guard) in Oakalla, was present at Joseph's death. Interviewed in her home, she said she quit her job following the inquest because it failed to reveal the circumstances surrounding the death.

She said she was disgusted at what she termed the coverup. Quitting was her way of protesting.

"I just couldn't stand it any more. Her death could have been avoided. I went two or three times to get a doctor to come and see her because she'd overdosed. But he was having a cuppa, "Palmer said.

Palmer said she was so upset with the doctor's attitude she told the RCMP officers who came in to investigate, acting unit deputy director Gerry Nordby, and Coroner Jack who came to the prison shortly after the death.

She said she gave written reports on the incident to her superiors and was told that it was to be handled internally.

At the inquest, she said, no one mentioned what really happened.

Dr. Guzman, who still works in the prison, said he couldn't recall the incident. He said he wouldn't refuse to treat any inmate.

The next is from the Province, Nov. 21, 1977 by Bruce McLean:

Hardcore prisoners are getting more and more clout because a long feud between the 12 men and 59 women on the staff is weakening their control over the prison.

In a three-day series of interviews with several guards and two former inmates, The Province also has learned that:

- Six female inmates, interviewed by a reporter after a Friday tour of the jail, had been handpicked by prison officials and persuaded to "whitewash" the institution.
- A woman prisoner was slapped and kicked by one of the six inmates, apparently because they feared she would contradict them in a separate Province interview following a tour of the unit.
- Last March 31, a woman inmate escaped after an afternoon of booze and sex with a male guard in an apartment in Vancouver's West End.
- On grounds that a few male guards spend time with inmates in their closed rooms, most of those interviewed are convinced that they are sexual encounters.
- Two weeks ago, a guard married a former inmate. The guard, still on staff at the women's unit, left his first wife to move in with the inmate shortly after her release.
- A male guard and an inmate schemed together in the fraudulent payment of welfare to the woman while she was in Oakalla.
- A former inmate, threatening suicide, was allowed to return to Oakalla last August and stay there for seven days on compassionate grounds and without a commital warrant.

For the interview, the six inmates were called to Burns' office about 10 a.m. Friday. The reporter told the inmates that he had been informed that the interview would be a "whitewash."

There was a chorus of protests and denials from the inmates, aged from 19 to about 40, one with three escapes on her record, all of them drug addicts and two of them serving time for armed robbery.

They insisted they had asked for the interview to give their side of the story about allegations of sex between guards and inmates.

"Nobody is telling us what to say," said one inmate.

Without a dissenting word, the six insisted there was no sexual activity between guards and inmates and no other improprieties.

"We want it publicly known that we're not having orgies in here," said one of the two inmates who did most of the talking.

Their only complaints about life in Oakalla was boredom, infrequent movies and dances and inadequate gym equipment; broken pool cues for example.

After the inquiry began, these reports and others were investigated by Justice Proudfoot and her commission. The following are parts of newspaper articles covering the course of the investigation.

The Vancouver Sun, Feb. 9, 1978, by Judy Lindsay

For women sent to Oakalla these are some of the facts of life, brought out by the Elizabeth Fry Society at a public hearing Wednesday in Vancouver. The society presented a brief to the first day of public hearings by the royal commission inquiring into the incarceration of females in B.C.

The inquiry, under Justice Patricia Proudfoot, is expected to hear briefs and call witnesses for the next three weeks. The commissioner was given a broad mandate to examine management policies and practices, staffing and disciplinary procedures.

The society made 40 recommendations on Oakalla and 29 on Twin Maples, a minimum security unit at Ruskin.

Among its recommendations concerning Oakalla were:

- Reading of prisoners' mail should cease and envelopes be opened only if suspected of containing contraband.
- A separate facility for women on remand (awaiting trial or sentencing) is needed to separate them from the sentenced population.
- The gym should be improved and made available every evening.
- Every sentenced prisoner who is capable should be required to work or attend school.
- The minimum wage for work at the institution should be increased to $3 a day from 90 cents.
- A prisoner-staff committee, with prisoners democratically elected, should be formed and meet monthly to discuss concerns.
- The women's unit should be empowered to make its own administrative and policy decisions rather than having to consult with the director of men's unit.
- Toilets should be blocked off for privacy.

Housing remanded and sentenced women together is disruptive, the society said; it is difficult to plan programs when a sizeable portion of the population is changing all the time. Remanded women have more visiting and phone privileges, creating a conflict between the two groups.

The society recommended that all staff positions within the women's unit be open to both men and women, with the execption of jobs in the living units or sleeping rooms. These jobs should be restricted to women until qualifications are standardized and training upgraded.

The society also said the director of the unit should be a woman as it is sometimes necessary for the director to inspect the living units.

Use of work and educational releases should be expanded wherever possible, the society said, to help the women rejoin the community. A life-skills program and job-oriented training programs be instituted.

The Vancouver Sun, Feb. 10, 1978, by Judy Lindsay

An officer of the Elizabeth Fry Society told a royal commission Thursday that senior staff members of the Oakalla Women's Correctional Centre had told her of a "cover-up" of the scalding of an inmate by other inmates.

The incident, in which the inmate was allegedly held in hot water for half an hour, occurred Jan. 4, 1976, according to Vi Roden, vice-president of the society which assists women prisoners.

Roden, a court worker at the time, said she had been told by the woman with the burns that the other inmates had scalded her. When she went to Oakalla to investigate further, senior staff, "indicated that there had been a cover-up.

The Vancouver Sun, Mar. 11, 1978, by Judy Lindsay

The former director of the Oakalla women's prison found himself on the hot seat Friday at a public inquiry as the inquiry commissioner demanded to know why he had failed to deal with allegations of misconduct at the prison.

An exasperated Patricia Proudfoot, a B.C. Supreme Court judge, repeatedly pressed former director Robert Burns to explain his failure to act. Burns had testified that newspaper stories last fall concerning alleged sexual improprieties between guards and inmates had given him some "insight" into the problem.

If the newspapers hadn't published those stories, how long would the situation have gone on, Proudfoot wanted to know.

Burns replied that he had been given the basic information, minus names and dates, by regional director Ted Harrison in October.

"Didn't you know what was going on inside that prison?" Proudfoot asked.

Burns said he knew of only one incident, concerning a prisoner who escaped on a day pass. Otherwise, Harrison hadn't given him enough information to go on.

Again Proudfoot asked burns how long he would have let the situation continue.

Burns said it wouldn't have gone as far as it did if everyone had been communicating properly.

Proudfoot then wanted to know why Burns had not insisted that senior staff assigned to draw up some prison rules finish the job. Many witnesses before the inquiry have complained that the absence of written rules led to inconsistency and frustration.

Former deputy director Stan Hofseth told the inquiry earlier that he had given the job of perparing the rules to two staff members, but they had never completed it.

Burns said he was awaiting new provincial jail rules so both sets could be combined. He said that a few times he had urged the staff members to complete the work.

Why didn't you do it yourself? Proudfoot asked.

It was a tedious job, he said, and they were all very busy at the prison because of a staff shortage. An hour and a half is comsumed every day simply readjusting shifts to cope with people on holiday or sick leave. And staff are allowed two weeks off every three months because of job stress, he said.

Burns, 58 became director of the Oakalla Women's Correctional Centre in 1974 after nearly 30 years at Oakalla. He has worked in all areas and been in charge of all prison units, he told the inquiry.

He and Hofseth were both removed from their posts at the women's prison last December after the allegations were made and an RCMP investigation undertaken. The police did not find any evidence to support the allegations, with the exception of one case of welfare fraud.

The Vancouver Sun, by Judy Lindsay

At "Hotel Oakalla" the convicts are the guests and the guards are the bellhops, according to a guard at the women's prison.

Guard James Ellerbeck told a public inquiry Wednesday that female guards at the Oakalla Women's Correctional Centre in Burnaby are intimidated by the prisoners' foul language and threats of assault.

Male guards are not intimidated by the women, he said, and in fact they are the "only means of control on that institution now." Without the men "the top would blow off."

When the matrons have difficulty with a prisoner they threaten to "bring the men in," he said.

However, only men over 30 should be hired as guards, Ellerbeck said. Many of the female prisoners are street hustlers who know how to manipulate men. "It would not be fair to put young men in there."

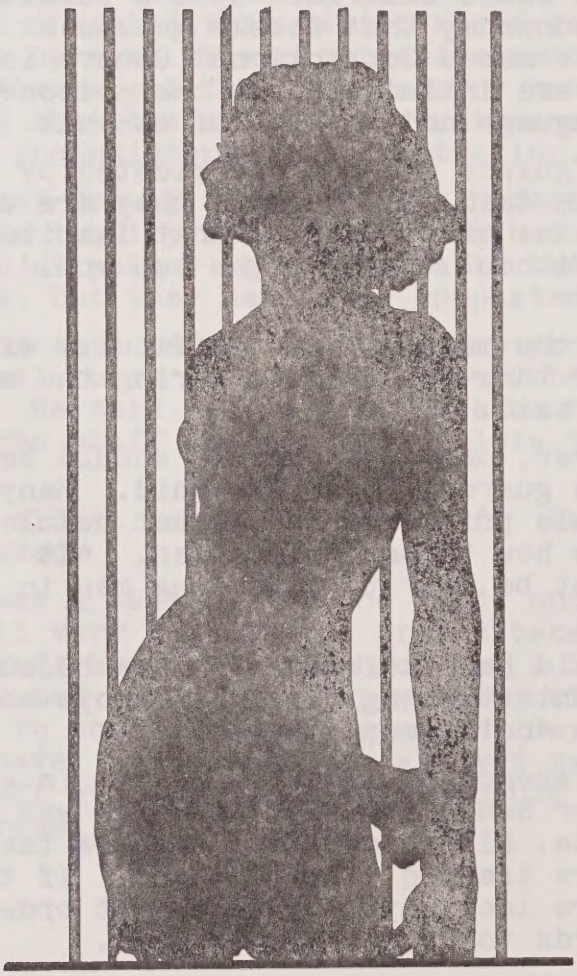
He said he likedworking there because it is "entertaining," and he enjoys working with "notorious" people.

A reference to "Hotel Oakalla" in a Vancouver Sun story last November was appropriate, Ellerbeck said, because the staff are treated like bellhops. If the prisoners lack anything they just order the guards to go get it, he said.

Oakalla prisoner Jan Taylor, representing the inmates at the hearing, said the prisoners have no keys and therefore must ask the guards for things they need.

Ellerbeck replied that it was the way they asked that mattered.

Testimony and recommendations also presented by the Prisoners' Rights Group in the form of a brief which we are reproducing below:



PRESENTATION TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION

ON FEMALE OFFENDERS

By The Prisoners' Rights Group(PRG)
Vancouver, B.C. Feb. 15, 1978

The PRISONERS' RIGHTS GROUP (PRG) is a volunteer group dedicated:

1) to help prisoners help themselves - to cope with the difficult circumstances of prison life in both their pre and post release periods;
2) to help educate the public as to the true conditions of prison life, utilizing as one method its half hour weekly T.V. cablevision program;
3) to the abolition of the present prison system recognized as more of a burden and disgrace than a protection from or a solution to the problems of crime in our society -- supporting instead those bolder alternatives ranging from drastic reduction of criminal laws and a moratorium on prison construction, to the creation of non-punitive responses to the problems of criminality.

The PRISONERS' RIGHTS GROUP (PRG) shares the concern of this Commission regarding the problems faced by women incarcerated in this province, taking note of the proliferation of enquiries into the Canadian prison system, accompanied by recom-

mendations, but with little if any structures to monitor implementation.

At this point it should be noted that so-called crimes in our society are differentiated by those associated with offences against property, which account for the majority of sentences served in Canadian prisons, with those accompanied by violent assault and murder, involving a very small number. On the other hand, there is a growing number of social crimes which are not covered by the Criminal Code, but which are far more reprehensible. These take an increasing toll of health and lives in the community and leave in their wake an atmosphere of frustration and confusion as to true values. No one serves life sentences when irreversible destruction of the environment and untold damage to human life result from permits granted to corporations to dump mine tailings into Rupert Inlet, nor when a man dies as a result of coming in contact with a faulty conductor clamp whose recommended replacement was ignored by B. C. Hydro.

In the words of William McGrath, Director of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Crime - persons finding themselves in prison because they contravened the laws begin to ask themselves very basic questions -- whether they have become victims and scapegoats for society ...

It is within this context thtat we view the present problems facing women incarcerated in British Columbia prisons, and that we seek to maintain a sense of reality as we search out solutions.

In this section we will indicate the more flagrant aspects of the Women's Unit at Oakalla as we have observed them from our status as ordinary visitors to individual prisoners, since we have been denied access as a visiting group. We have been refused interviews by the administration to consider proposed programs. We have not received the courtesy of an acknowledgment to our correspondence requesting such interviews.

The following items are therefore presented, and must be accepted as being strictly within the context of being 'to the best of our knowledge,' since we lack the opportunity to discuss matters simultaneously with all concerned parties present.

1) RULES AND REGULATIONS:

These have allegedly been under revision for the past three years and are not yet available in printed form. Without these, the prisoners on the one hand cannot know exactly what is expected of them, and the staff remain free to enforce rules to their individual interpretation, thus laying the basis for considerable frustration and injustice.

2) HEALTH:

While medical staff is present, the authoritarian and paternalistic attitudes inherent in institutions prevail, and thus cannot be relied upon to meet all the needs of the prisoners. Because of the low grade physical condition of most prisoners during their period of incarceration due mainly to lack of fresh air and exercise, insufficient fresh fruit and vegetables, history of drugs and alcohol, the accusation of malingering on the one hand and of gross incompetence on the other, persist.

In this connection, we cite the case of Louise Limecki (Spelling?), a former prisoner at the Women's Unit at Oakalla. This woman apparently complained of abdominal pain but was given the traditional 'aspirin treatment'. It was not until her condition became so serious that she could not attend at court, that she was rushed to the Vancouver General Hospital.

There it was found that she had intestinal obstruction with onset of toxemia. Emergency surgery was performed, but on her return she suffered severe depression as noted by one of the PRG when visiting her and being shown the scars from her surgery. Three months later she hanged herself with the belt of her bathrobe.

It would appear that unless prisoners have access to an outside physician, whether their own or a consultant, there is no safeguard for them against an incorrect diagnosis. Is it part of their sentence that prisoners must accept substandard medical treatment?

3) MALE GUARDS:

It should be evident that male presence in the intimate quarters of a women's prison constitutes a violation of decency and an invasion of privacy. Many obscene incidents on the part of certain male guards have been related to members of the PRG by women prisoners at Oakalla, such as fashioning crude objects from curlers and suggesting they be used for sexual purposes; coming into their rooms and lying on their beds; accosting a woman prisoner in the hallway and putting his hand into her bosom; one of the members of the PRG observed a male guard reach for a woman prisoner as she was saying goodbye to her parents in the visiting area, and yank her backwards by inserting his finger into the back neckline of her dress.

While these may appear trivial in nature, the indignant reaction of the women has to be appreciated. Also, the sight of male guards wearing shirts unbuttoned to midwaist, and extra tight and revealing trousers, is hard-

ly calculated to contribute to an atmosphere in which prisoners, for their part, are expected to conduct themselves with dignity.

A woman's prison is simply no place for male guards. Ill-treatment of prisoners is often escalated to the point where violent resistance takes place, thereby justifying (in the view of the administration) the need for male guards to control the 'rebels.'

4) VISITING:

This is a recognized major feature in a prisoner's life in order to try and maintain normal relations with family and friends, as well as to prepare for re-entry into society. It is also a major factor in the life of families who desire to be as supportive as possible. Harassment unfortunately often takes place in this situation affecting the visitor as well as the prisoner, e.g.

a) interminable waiting time when making telephone appointment;
b) visitor told that the prisoner does not wish a visit with them - only to learn later that the prisoner had not been advised of the specific call;
c) visitor advised when calling at 9:00 a.m. (when lines are first opened) that all available visiting time has been booked;
d) visiting area is severely limited as to space, acoustics, telephone facilities and privacy. Within one visiting period per day, two sets of open and closed visits can accomodate at most 12 persons. For approximately 75 women who may have two visits per week - statutory holidays are closed for visits in Women's Unit while permitted in the Men's Unit - this represents a most inadequate visiting program.

5) CORRESPONDENCE:

From personal experience we have found that even letters delivered by hand (thus precluding any possible loss via postal service) occasionally are reported 'lost', as well as mail from prisoners to the outside. There does not appear to be any responsibility on the part of the administration in this matter. It has never been possible to find out if there is any registration of incoming and outgoing mail, and if so, there still remains no form of accountability.

6) PROGRAMS:

On the single occasion when a brief discussion took place with the previous director, programs proposed by our group were rejected out of hand. These included:

a) pilot projects in diet control, based on the advanced research into the correlation between diet and behaviour as it relates to abnormal patterns leading to so-called criminal behaviour;
b) life skills relating to simple matters such as banking, job hunting, health, law, welfare, Unemployment Insurance, all of which we tend to take for granted but which present serious problems for those women who find themselves at odds with the law.

Also, in a society whose values dictate that money is all-important, where well-paying job opportunities do not exist, some women turn to prostitution for its

high returns. When they arrive in prison they find the only programs offered deal with the tradional hairdressing, sewing, laundry, cleaning and kitchen work. In the first place it should be realized that these times have past, and women are capable of and demanding more interesting and meaningful employment at a higher rate of pay, and secondly that where they do learn to operate power sewing machines, they should be granted a certificate to gain entrance into the trade on release. At present even where they have successfully operated these machines for two years, they are still considered inexperienced when applying for work on release.

In effect, no program exists to help them cope with unemployment which is rife, and the demoralizing task of job hunting during the present severe economic crisis.

Although most women offenders are serving time for property crimes without violence, mainly related to drugs and soliciting, no in-depth drug study program is offered. This, despite the fact that a greater number of women are being charged under the Narcotic Controls Act. In 1964 there were 171 convicted cases, in 1974 there were 4,811. (Taken from the Female Offenders Selected Statistics).

7) MOTHERS IN PRISON:

A separate comprehensive study would have to be made of this particular area since it is the family unit which suffers most severely when the mother is removed. The mother herself often loses custody of her children during her period of incarceration, and is helpless to deal with the legalities under the circumstances.

8) TEMPORARY LEAVES AND DAY PASSES:

Little or no consistency is shown in granting these privileges. It has been reported to a member of this group that in some instances women serving lengthy federal terms are granted passes whereas women serving time for minor offences are denied passes. It would appear that passes are often issued based on favouritism on the part of the administration. In one instance it was reported that the director himself accompanied certain such favored prisoners.

9) RECREATION:

The gymnasium area and equipment are grossly inadequate. There are no daily outside exercise periods - as exist in the Men's Unit. During the extraordinarily fine summer and fall of 1977, the women were not allowed out, presumably because of insufficient security. Apart from going to court, or moving from the main

building to the sewing or class rooms, or the occasional assignment to work on the grounds, the majority of the prisoners spent the entire season indoors-- and continue to do so!!

In closing this section, we repeat that the above remarks must be placed within the context of being 'to the best of our knowledge' except when derived from personal observations.

10) SOLITARY CONFINEMENT:

This reference has been left to the last since it is recognized to be a most cruel and unusual practice in the Canadian prison system.

While prison authorities rationalize that placing prisoners in isolation cells is sometimes necessary because of displays of incorrigibility and violence, it has also been recognized that complete isolation constitutes an attempt to break the will of the prisoner. Such sensory deprivation tends to bring about degenerative changes in the nerve cells which can result in death, primarily because cultural and environmental contacts are essential to survival. Such a setting dehumanizes and contributes to an even more violent behavior, as it accentuates

frustration, rage and helplessness.

Coercive programs which attempt to change attitude or behavior are destined to fail unless you kill the prisoner outright, permanently disable her, or keep her incarcerated for life. This is known as a psychogenocide program.

With specific reference to the Women's Unit at Oakalla, although the Gaol Rules and Regulations Section 2.26 (e) were cited to us by the Director of L.M.R.C.C. as "confinement in isolation cells on a regular or restricted diet is for a period of up to fifteen days", we later learned that some women had been detained for periods up to thirty days (and in one instance we were told it exceeded thirty days). We have never been able to obtain the specific regulation covering this extended period.

Note must also be made of the fact that with special permission from the Regional Director or Commissioner at Victoria, women can and have been assigned to the section under ground, beneath what is known as the old cow barn, as recently as September 15, 1977. This particular area has been condemned as uninhabitable, but continues to be used for so-called emergency purposes.

CONCLUSION:

We have a recommendation to make that is exciting and feasible (as indicated in the Scandinavian countries). Consistent with our own participation in the widespread movement throughout the western world to abolish prisons and to install viable alternatives, the following proposal is herewith placed before the Commission.

We urge this Commission to set a precedent in Canada by taking steps to recommend alternatives to the present prison system -- the first stage being to shut down the Women's Unit at Oakalla, and the next stage being to establish community facilities (making full use of the present staff and personnel). Such a step would be uniquely credible because of the small number of women in this prison, thereby reversing the prevailing attitude that little is done for women prisoners because their small numbers do not warrant the expenditures involved.

For those women who would not immediately qualify for the supervised freedom envisaged in this program, a more contained centre could be considered but still within the context of a humane, personal, one-to-one relationship -- one where their individual physical and social needs would be explored and essential aid provided. Keeping in mind that these women are only <u>temporarily</u> detained, the period of transition is parti-

cularly important.

We submit that women incarcerated in the B.C. Corrections system are entitled to be treated as fellow creatures, not as children or as wild animals to be kept locked up, controlled and abused by the arbitrary and capricious whims of an outdated bureaucracy.

We submit that were the Commission to advance these recommendations, namely, to shut down the Women's Unit at Oakalla, and to transfer its occupants to community facilities, it would be seen to be acquitting its responsibilities with foresight and courage.

THE PRISONERS' RIGHTS GROUP (PRG)
3965 Pandora, Burnaby, B.C. V5C 2A8
Presented by:
Claire Culhane
Laurianne Jodouin

The Commission heard all this testimony and much more. Madame Justice Proudfoot issued the report of the Commission in April, 1978. A summary of the final recommendations are listed below:

THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS that:

1) the Local Manager (Mrs. Peacock) select her own staff
2) no security staff be given any responsibility without prior training at a minimum of the 20-day, Block 1 and 11 programme
3) a deputy be appointed to assist the Local Manager at OWCC
4) the practice of seconding (i.e. appointing senior officers without first advertising the position) cease except in emergencies
5) all senior correctional officers be exempt foom union membership
6) a re-study be conducted of principal officers' membership in the union
7) probationary and auxiliary staff not be members of the union
8) a cottage be refurbished for use as a lounge for staff
9) uniforms be worn by all institution staff
10) male staff be allowed to work in any area where human decency and privacy are not affected
11) a pool of part-time staff be trained and made available to cover illness or other emergencies
12) revised rules and regulations be publicized to staff and inmates
13) an independent adjudicator be appointed to deal with disciplinary court
14) inmates' possessions in their rooms be restricted
15) the co-correctional programme at Prince George be discontinued immediately
16) Twin Maples remain as presently constituted
17) no further co-correctional facilities be established elsewhere in British Columbia

18) laundry equipment be up-dated and one staff member be assigned to supervise

19) one staff member continue to supervise the kitchen on a regular basis, in addition to training inmates in specialized food preparation

20) one staff be assigned responsibility for housekeeping crew and supplies and that inmates on remand should generally be involved in the maintenance programme

21) one staff member be assigned to supervise an outdoor maintenance crew and train its members in landscaping

22) the budget for the sewing programme be increased and that this programme be expanded

23) a staff member assigned to supervise and train inmates in the beauty parlour and that modern equipment be installed

24) one person be assigned responsibility to co-ordinate volunteers

25) inmates in every work programme be enabled to earn certification from outside bodies for training received at OWCC

26) a cottage be refurbished for use as a library and funds be made available immediately for books and supplies

27) a cottage be refurbished for use as a school room, and that the school budget be substantially increased

28) the OWCC school be authorized to award certification for grade completion

29) an orientation programme be established at OWCC

30) life skills training and counselling be introduced at OWCC

31) inmates spend at least one hour outside everyday

32) the recreational director be relieved of his custodial duties and that a budget sufficient to provide and maintain equipment be made available

33) volunteers continue to be used for social and recreational activities and that the union members not be discouraged from participating

33) volunteers continue to be used for social and recreational activities and that the union members not be discouraged from participating

34) the inmates' Welfare Fund be placed in an interest-bearing account

35) all decisions for payment out of the Welfare and Group Funds be approved by a committee of staff and inmates

36) a clerk with accounting and bookkeeping qualifications be appointed at OWCC

37) the delay in processing applications be minimized

38) inmates be accorded the right to attend the panel hearings of their applications and to make oral submissions

39) inmates have access to all information presented to the panel with regard to their applications

40) inmates be given full reasons for the decisions of the panel

41) inmates in the panabode be eligible for temporary absenses while at OWCC

42) that Lynda Williams Community Correctional Centre be closed

43) the panabode programme at OWCC be re-opened

44) Graham Street Community Correctional Centre in Victoria be closely scrutinized

45) family visits continue on a regular basis

46) unit visits be re-introduced on selective-earned (merit system) basis

47) visitors be screened and scanning mechanisms be employed to detect contraband

48) telephone calls to lawyers be private and other conversations monitored if there is a security risk or disruption of good order and/or management is suspected

49) all censorship of mail ingoing and outgoing stop forthwith

50) inmates with mental problems be segregated by hospitalization

51) the Director of Inspection and Standards be a respected and experienced investigator

52) the Divison of Inspection and Standards report directly to the Attorney-General

53) Citizen Advisory Groups be utilized to their fullest capabilities

54) Dr. Jewett's Citizens' Ad Hoc Committee monitor the implementation of the recommendations of this report

55) the Local Manager of the Oakalla Women's Correctional Centre report directly to the Regional Director of Corrections

56) sentenced and remand inmates be separated

57) a perimeter fence be built at OWCC immediately

This article has attempted to give some of the story of the investigation into Oakalla Women's Unit and the resulting recommendations by the Proudfoot Commission. It's hard to put something like this together mostly because of Kingston's distance from B.C. and the difficulty of getting all the information necessary. The above story is pieced together from various sources over the last several months.

Missing of course are up-to-date reports on life at Oakalla since the Commission's inquiry. We'd appreciate comments from readers who may have information to fill this gap.

Leonard Peltier Defense Committee

GRANDFATHER . . .
THANK YOU
THAT WE LIVE ANOTHER DAY
TO STRUGGLE, SACRIFICE, CREATE.
THANK YOU
FOR OUR WARRIORS
LIKE OUR BROTHER
LEONARD PELTIER.
THANK YOU
FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
WHO HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY
ON THE DEFENSE
OF OUR RED NATIONS.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THEM
GIVE THEM STRONG MINDS,
GOOD HEALTH, STRONG SPIRIT
TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE
TO FREE LEONARD PELTIER,
TO SURVIVE THE OVERALL STRUGGLE
OF OUR DAILY LIVES

--ALL MY RELATI

FREE THE PEOPLE

Once again we find ourselves in another day of struggle in the longest war on the Western Hemisphere.

Once again we find ourselves in the defense of our land, Red People, and our brother Leonard Peltier.

Once again we face the dual standard of justice of the U.S. Court System.

--In spite of the fact that the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty was again clearly violated on the day of the shooting when one-eighth of the entire Pine Ridge Reservation was signed away to the U.S. National Park Service. . .

--In spite of the fact that no one has ever been charged with the murder of Joe Stuntz. . .

--In spite of the known attacks by the FBI before and after the shooting on June 26, 1975, on Native people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. . .

ONLY LEONARD PELTIER, AND NOT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, IS CONSIDERED GUILTY!

Leonard's appeal for a retrial was denied by Judges Ross, Gibson, and Stephenson of the United States Court of Appeal for the Eighth Circuit on September 14, 1978, in St. Louis, Missouri.

The U.S. government's case against Leonard Peltier was based upon circumstantial evidence. This evidence was acquired through misconduct and began with its unlawful CoInTelPro penetration of the American Indian Movement activities; continued with deception of a Canadian extradition tribunal, and coercion of a material witness; and concluded with a "cover-up" of the Fargo trial.

The evidence against Peltier was primarily circumstantial, yet the appeal description of the shooting on June 26, is approached from the point of view of direct witnesses, which the government did not have.

Peltier's defense lawyers have filed a new appeal before a panel of ten judges of the entire Eighth Circuit Court on September 29, and if this appeal is denied, the lawyers will immediately begin to petition the U.S. Supreme Court. If a new trial is granted, Leonard's lawyers will move for an appeal bond.

The Longest Walk represented the continuing spiritual and cultural rebirth of Native people. Just as the struggle represented by the Longest Walk did not end in Washington, D.C., Leonard Peltier's struggle for freedom and human rights does not end with the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. "The Longest Walk will not end until all of our people have been gathered again into the sacred hoop."

The spirit of the people is on trial with Leonard, and it is being tested. The test will be of our faith in one another; of trust, respect, love, and belief. . . of Life and Death. . . a test of all we hold sacred. Those who have committed themselves to Leonard with time, spirit, energy and prayer, have all been tested and affected. And the test continues. Not only are individual weaknesses being pressured, but this is compounded by the FBI's ability to intimidate, infiltrate, and take advantage of difficult situations in order to reduce the effectiveness of the people's efforts. The test has been in the people's ability to stand strong in the face of judicial manipulation and FBI harassment. The test of the spirit of the people is still ahead and will not end until we are all free and living as sovereign, responsible human beings.

We continue to call upon the consciousness of the American people to press upon their government the necessity of recognizing the Indian treaties and Indian sovereignty NOW. We also wish to remind the Christian people of the price of avoiding their spiritual obligation of opposing the institutional policies of genocide against creation and the denial of human rights throughout the world. We further call upon the taxpayers of this country to revolt against their government squandering millions of dollars in one of histories most appalling wars. We call upon all people to help end this religious war of spiritual genocide against the people.

New Address: 1206 Smith Tower, Seattle, WA 98104 Telephone: (206) 323-4159

Queen's University Journal, 9/14/78

Kingston night spots

Where have all the ol' dives gone?

by Chris Towe and Frank Mulock

So you thought Kingston was dull! Gentle reader, the summer months have been kind to Kingston. New places have opened and old places have renovated. The result is that for the first time there are pleasant alternatives to the Queen's Pub.

The Hungry Lion, on Bagot Street, incorporating both a dining and discolounge, represents the top end of the entertainment spectrum for the Kingston disco set. Its concept, according to Assistant Manager Cliff Morton, lies in providing the best in service, decor and "contemporary music" - "A place where you can meet your peers without being afraid of having a draft thrown over your clothes."

Morton credits the "social awareness" of many Queen's students as a contributing factor in the Lion's great popularity over the last two years. However it has not relied solely on Queen's for its success. The Hungry Lion has created a strong local following among the young 'white collar' set.

Both the Lion's dress code and its weekend cover charge of one dollar seem reasonable prices to pay for the type of entertainment offered.

The owners of the King's Disco Lounge treaded on virgin territory a few years ago by opening Kingston's first disco. While the disco is somewhat more modest than that of the Hungry Lion, (one is immediately struck by the lack of chrome and plastic), Manager Richard Mitchell states that the enterprise prides itself on its friendly and warm atmosphere. He feels that the King's main appeal is to the young working person in their 20's.

A 10,000 dollar sound and light system provide the entertainment. But Queen's students have no fear! There is no cover at the King's and

the dress code is loosely enforced.

The Plaza Hotel has undergone radical change during the summer. The Plaza, which once contained three separate rooms, has been converted into large lounge seating 270 people, 100 of which, we were told, are daily regulars.

Live music is featured six nights a week, mostly in a C and W and early Rock 'n Roll vein. The Manager, Chester by name, has invited Queen's students to suggest any group they would like to see perform at the Plaza.

The lounge, labelled the Pioneer Room, is both comfortable and decorative and offers sold 'middle - of-the-road' entertainment and dancing. This year the plaza has instituted a dress code to suit its new image, and image which we heartily applaud.

The basement lounge, The Cove, at the Commodore Motel, has been remodelled over the summer. The stage, which once featured live dance bands, has been converted into a large dance floor with an excellent sound system and ambitious light show.

The reason for the change was purely economic. The cost of bands was becoming prohibitively high. The fixed cost of "going disco" appealed to the owners and the success of the downtown venues convinced them of the safety of their move.

The decision to appeal to the mass taste has relegated the Commodore to the position of trend-follower rather than trend-setter. It is unfortunate to see another live entertainment facility sacrificed at the altar of commercial sensibility.

The most encouraging developments in the revitalized downtown core have been on the corner of Market and Ontario streets. 400,000 dollars worth of renovations have produced a new restaurant, Rousseau's, and two new bars, each of which should prove to be a popular alternative to the current "disco-overload".

The Shaky Landing, with a seating capacity of 104 is a "funky", comfortable bar replete with Tiffany lamps, carpeting and piped-in music not muzak.

In behind the Shaky Landing, lies Dollar Bill's, named for an old Kingston rum runner.

Co-manager Peter Lloyd, (one of three ex-Queen's students involved in the project, wants the room to develop the reputation "of a quality show-bar, along the lines of the Colonial or El Mocambo in Toronto...with a consistently high quality of musicianship...a place with a little more depth than disco".

The music, to be featured six nights a week, will cover all the bases. A few of the artists scheduled to appear before Christmas include Amos Garret and Geoff Muldaur, the Great Sneezy Waters, and Teddy Wilcox and the Teddy Bears.

Dollar Bill's will seat 180. It has its own dance floor, sound room and a 60,000 dollar computerized bar.

A cover will only be charged for higher profile performers and yes, a dress code will, according to Lloyd, be in effect. "positively no polyester leisure suits allowed after 7 P.M.!"

Entertainment in Kingston has changed in both attitude and facilities. We were told that it is no longer a seller's market and that the idea that a sucker is born every minute is no longer valid. The evidence for this remains ambiguous. We were struck by both the willingness to please and the desire to make a buck.

While there does not seem to be active competition between the aforementioned, (since each appeals to its own market segment), there is now a broader choice being offered. For this, we are grateful.

Globe and Mail
Wed. Nov. 8 - 78.

Nearly half favor liberalization

Many want looser pot law, poll says

The number of Canadians endorsing some form of marijuana decriminalization has doubled since April, 1977, according to a September Gallup Poll commissioned by Ontario's Addiction Research Foundation.

The poll indicates that nearly half the country's people — 46 per cent — believe either that possession of small amounts of the drug should not be a crime or that it should be sold in government stores, like alcohol.

The poll is reported in the latest issue of The Journal, a monthly publication of the government-financed agency. A similar poll was taken in April of last year.

Thirteen per cent of Canadians think possession of marijuana should remain a crime but say fines should be the only penalty, the poll shows. They feel selling the drug should remain subject to the full range of criminal penalties.

Current laws, under which both possession and trafficking are crimes carrying the possibility of a jail sentence on conviction, are favored by 31 per cent.

A study conducted last year by the U. S. National Institute on Drug Abuse showed that only 11 per cent of those over 26 and 35 per cent of those between 18 and 25 favored some form of decriminalization.

Eric Single, a foundation social science researcher, said Canada's three major political parties have at one time or another favored decriminalization. "I would think the results of this poll are going to be a strong impetus," he said.

It is six years since the federal Government said it would move marijuana and hashish, two products of the cannabis plant, from the Criminal Code to the Food and Drug Act with only fines for first-offence possession convictions.

Law group pushes Lang on legal pot

OTTAWA (CP) — The Canadian Bar Association went to Justice Minister Otto Lang yesterday with proposals to decriminalize marijuana, give Canadians freer access to Government information and keep the Mounties away from first-class mail.

"I would like to see the marijuana situation looked at now," Thomas Walsh of Calgary, president of the 23,000-member association, said later.

But he added that politics make it unlikely, with a federal election coming, that the Government will introduce such a bill.

"He didn't comment on it too openly," Mr. Walsh said of Mr. Lang's response.

Mr. Lang told the delegation a bill that would enable police to open the mail legally is being reconsidered. Introduced last February as a royal commission looked into the issue, it has been withdrawn.

The association has been pressing for two years for a freedom-of-information law that would enable citizens to take the issue to court if government refused to make information available to them.

Peter Grant, chairman of a special association committee on freedom of information, indicated that Mr. Lang's response to this wasn't encouraging.

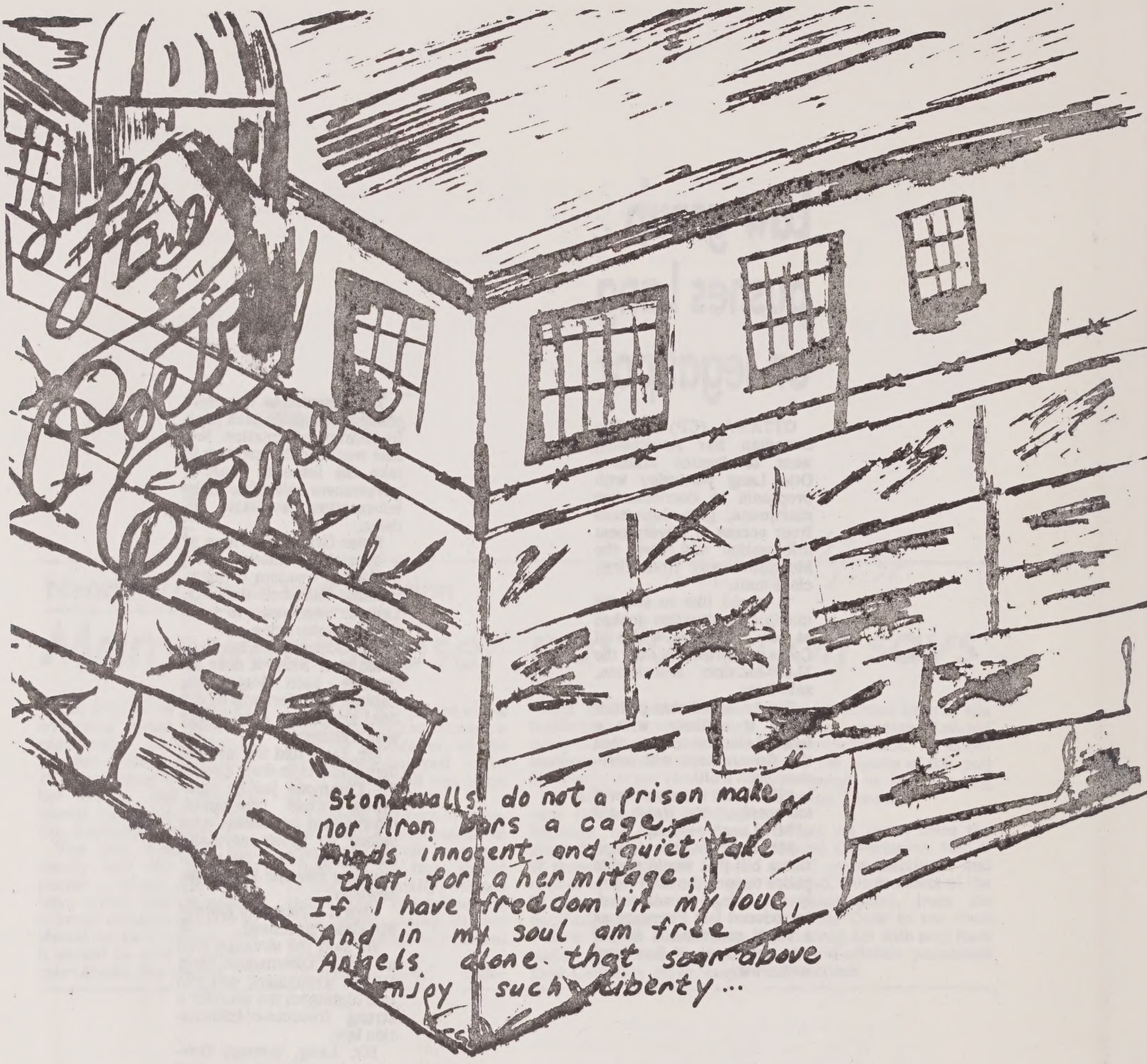
The Government has indicated that when it does introduce such legislation, Cabinet ministers will be the final arbiters in any dispute with a citizen.

Mr. Lang told the lawyers they could take their case to the Commons justice committee when freedom-of-information legislation goes before it. Briefs normally have little effect on a bill that has reached this stage, however.

"We'll continue to lobby," Mr. Grant promised.

He said the situation that a royal commission into RCMP wrongdoing has run into highlights the need for a strong freedom-of-information law.

Mr. Lang, through Government lawyers, last month told the commission the Government would object to any attempt to make public "confidential Government documents" in the commission's possession. The commission was told it could examine such documents only behind closed doors.



— RICHARD LOVELACE

OH MAN I'M ONLY DOING MY JOB

I looked at the man in front of me...
I hate you, I said.

What do you mean you hate me, you don't even know me, said he.

Need I know you, the enemy who locks me up each night barricading me from my rightful freedom
said I?

Oh man, I'm only doing my job
said he!

Huh, yeah said I...I heard that sound before it's familar ring in the slave ships and gas chambers of Auschwitz, Treblinka, yes in My Lai, even in Attica I heard the man in the gun tower utter the exact phrase as he took careful aim and put a well placed bullet in George Jackson's head
and now I hear it again,

but you after all are merely a tool, tricked, indoctrinated by the presto freedom the oppressors place before your eyes...here TOKEN ONE take this KEY and lock up those who shame your race...

You mindless one, your strings are pulled by the dollar sign...a puppet...how can you realize the truth in what I say,

Ask for forgiveness foolish one

for in the end God will decide the fate of your poor soul,

so look at the crime you commit in locking up me and my brothers and sisters each night...
Let you then say

Oh Man, I'm Only Doing My Job!!!

by Julius Snowden #38013
2605 State Street
Salem, Oregon
97310

CONSIDER

Have you ever thought to consider
The many routes of life.
The joys, the sorrows, the wishes,
That fill every life.

The people are the mainstream,
That guide us as we flow.
But are we really aware enough
To climb aboard this flow.

There are vicious personalities
That grasp only for their needs.
They forget about the others
Who would enjoy their needs.

Should we all be as teachers
Sharing our every thought.
Or should we all be selfish
And price them to be bought.

What about the hypocrite
Who shudders at the unknown,
Have you ever thought to consider
Your wisdom may be their unknown.

Written by,
Sharin Williamson

BEANSTALK COUNTRY

Bev Whitney

You know how the mad come into the room
-----too boldly
Their eyes exploding on the air like roses
Their entrance from a space you've never dared
to enter
They're always attended by someone small and friendly
-----who goes between your awful world and their's
as tho' explaining
.....but really only smiling
For they are Jacks who climb to Beanstalk Country
A place of tremendous hammers and beans
What secrets they could tell of what they saw
Thru the cracks in the Ogre's oven
-----but you draw back as someone says
"Don't mind their talk, they're all disturbed today"

Originally written 1973
Submitted October, 1978.

YESTERDAY

Yesterday was here and gone
Now we're waiting to belong
To someone we can share our thoughts
And remember the forget-me-nots

Today is here but not for long
It is like a bird of song
It is just for us to say
I still remember yesterday

Tomorrow we will see the sorrow
Cause today is just a morrow
Therefore we can safely say
We won't forget yesterday.

Cat

EVERYMAN

Every man has a gun
a God, or carries a candle.
Every man's a seeking man
and seeking men must travel.
Looking for the answers
to the questions their minds ask.
Looking for the real things
underneath the sea of masks.

Every man would-
    love to plunder the night
    to plunge the heat
    of their desire
    into the white womb
    of what is life

If the courage left to lessen
and the grief that could entail.
If the final reckoning fails
does the 'will' run dry?

Which is - every man
The one who asks the questions
The one who has the doubt
The one with the desire

or the one with the way out...

By Andy Bruce

"NURSING SISTER LUNN"

Boys, something awful has been done.
It happened all through Sister Lunn.
Around her neck swole two big lumps-
A sign that she had caught the mumps.
This made her patient, Joe, feel sore
'Cause there's no one whom he loves more.
But while he sighed, "Poor Sister Lunn,"
The Doctor said, "Good morning, son,
Let's have a look at that there throat,
You just say ah, in your best note.

This puzzled Joe - he was afaid.
He thought awhile and then obeyed.
His mouth he opened very wide
As Doctor took a peek inside.
"Ah ha, ah ha," the Doctor said:
"You get your coat and quit this bed.
To quarantine right now you go;
Come hurry, hurry, don't be slow.
I'll tell you what you've gone and done,
You've caught the mumps from Sister Lunn.

Owen de Vere Rowe

Overtime worth up to $1,600 earned monthly by jail guards

By STAN OZIEWICZ

Some guards at the Metro Toronto West Detention Centre in Etobicoke have been making up to $1,600 a month in overtime, Ministry of Correctional Services officials confirmed yesterday.

A ministry source said at least three jail guards worked more than 100 hours of overtime in August. One worked 120 hours, another 132 hours and the third 155 hours. Average and maximum overtime figures for other months were not available.

There are three levels of pay for correctional officers. A second-level guard earns $7.02 at straight time. For 155 hours of overtime at time and a half, this guard would earn $1,632 a month in addition to his regular pay.

Other guards have and continue to work less overtime at the jail, where guards recently walked off the job. There have been disputes between the union and guards' supervisors.

Ed Philip, New Democratic Party MPP for Etobicoke, said in an interview yesterday that working such long hours "is bloody dangerous in the kind of job where it is required that one not be emotionally or physically overtired. Not only from that point of view, but from the point of view of safety and morale of the place."

There are 160 employees at the jail, 115 of them guards. The jail was built to house about 200 inmates, but there have been almost double that at times.

In the Legislature recently, Mr. Philip asked Correctional Services Minister Gordon Walker why only 200 new guards have been hired of 350 promised last year for the province.

Mr. Walker blamed spending restraints for the shortage, but said there are enough guards at the Metro west jail.

Overcrowding, he said, is not a problem. In the period of January to October, there was an average of about 5 per cent more prisoners than the jail's rated capacity.

"All that means is that . . . sometimes more people turn up on the doorstep than would normally be expected, due to police activity, court activity and sentences. And we don't like to turn anyone away."

Yesterday, after a meeting of union and ministry officials, Mr. Walker said he has asked for an investigation into the amount of overtime being worked at the jail. Depending on what his officials report, he said, it may make more sense to hire more guards.

However, Mr. Walker said, the study may also show that the overtime is not at the most demanding of times. He cited extra hours worked while prisoners are asleep or escorting them to the infirmary. He also mentioned that many firemen moonlight and are none the worse for wear.

Also discussed at the meeting was the walkout last month by 15 guards following a cup-throwing incident by some prisoners.

Mr. Walker said yesterday the incident was petty. Instead of leaving their duties, the guards should have attempted to resolve the problem through the proper grievance channels, he said.

The guards left their posts after disagreeing with their supervisor over discipline against 13 maximum-security inmates who threw their coffee cups at some guards.

The guards' supervisor talked to the inmates and persuaded them to clean up the mess, but decided not to penalize them.

The guards, however, felt the inmates should have been locked up.

Mr. Walker said yesterday he agreed with the supervisor's judgment, especially since "there was no feeling of impending threat." He said the prisoners were in a closed-off maximum-security area.

SPORTS WRAP-UP

The Angels baseball team finished the season in the semi's. We had a good team this year tho' we lost a couple of players close to play-off time. Luckily (for the team) we got excellent additions in Liz. M. and Kathy E. We tip our hats to coach Ian Lyle for bringing us all together. At our baseball banquet we had eats, ball slides and trophy time - to Diane P. as the Most Valuable Player, Debbie S. as the Most Improved Player and Sandra D. as the Most Dedicated Player - Thankyou Randy R. and Liz M. for your fantastic photos of the team in action.

We stumbled around the slow period after ball season, tho' a few brushed-up on tennis and soccer.

Ian rustled together three Intra-mural volleyball teams - fore planning for the January league.

We have a power-packed basketball team this year - with a new coaching addition. After feeling around the first couple of games - we slam-banged Sun - Life 34 - 23.

GO TEAM GO !!!

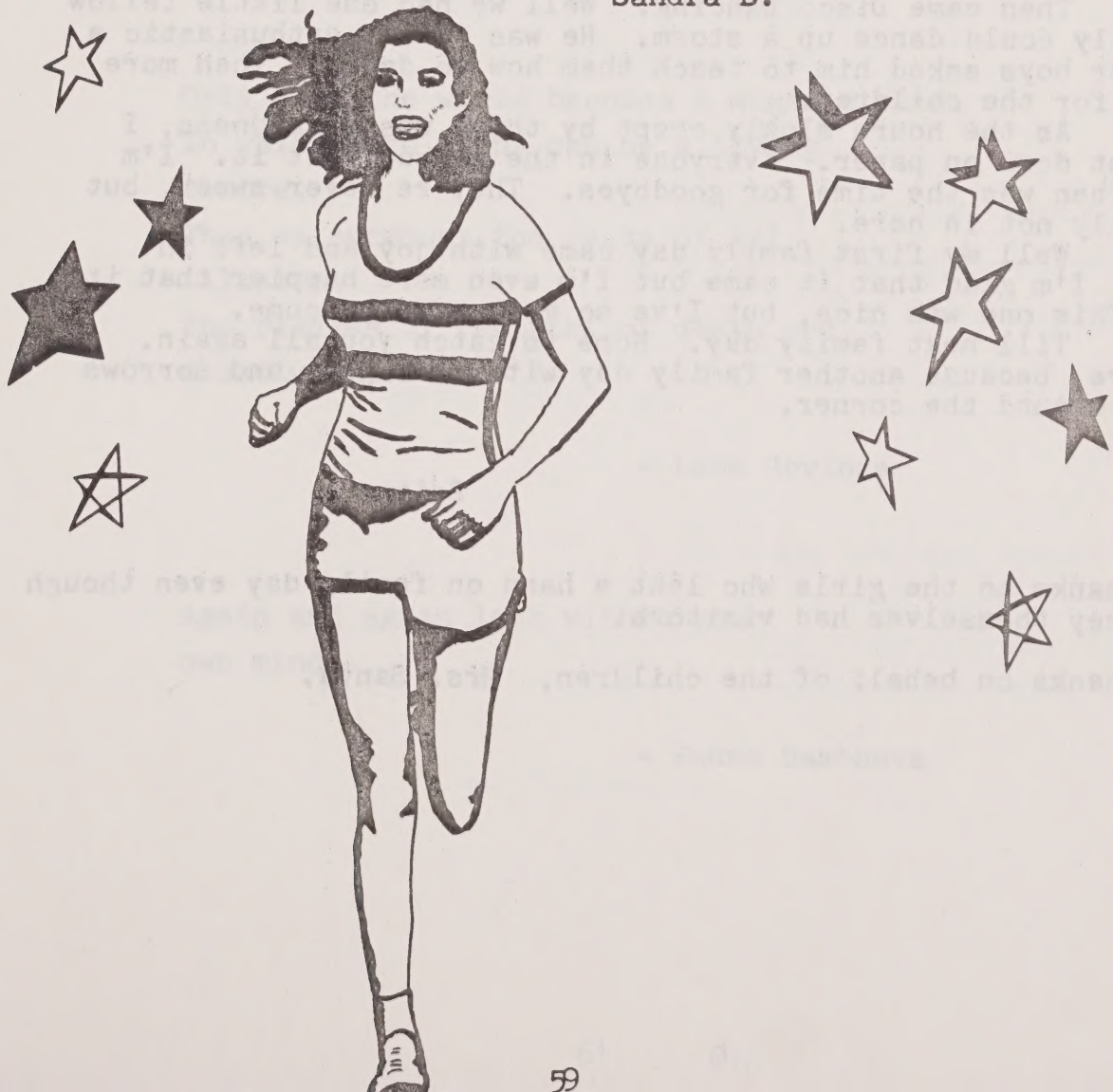
This victory sheds only a sliver of light on what's yet to come!!!

September Sport's Day was a hugh success - even the armchair athelete's joined in a competition of cheers. The day was gloriously summery--jam-packed with sun, fun and food. Thanks go to Sharon M. - Joan R. - and Mrs. Klassen for slaving over a hot grill and preparing the cook-out barbeque.

A few records were broken that day - Kathy E. set the new record for the ball throw from 158 feet to 175 feet! Dora B. broke two records, firstly in the sock race in 9.9 sec. and in the obstacle course in .52 secs. Sandy N. broke a record for the high jump at a new 4' 2". The trophy winning point leaders are first prize winner Sandy N., second Debbie S. and thirdly Dora B., with Sharon M. taking the prize for the best athlete in the over 30 division! Honarable mention goes to Terri Le C. for scoring the events and keeping up the spirit.

Thanks, friends, for making this article possible by your participation.

Sandra D.



F A M I L Y D A Y

This is my first Family Day here and I didn't know what to expect.

There was a feeling in the air. Anxiety? Everyone was anxious to see their family or friends. Once again, we went through the routine of getting our people through the front door. Then around 1:30 p.m. the visitors came into the gym. Most of the girls were already awaiting their visitors at their tables. Their faces lit up as their family and friends came through the door.

First of all we sat and talked to our visitors, trying to make them as comfortable as possible. At 2 o'clock they were allowed into the living areas. That was the fastest hour that I had ever spent. We had turkey supper with all the trimmings, even Plum pudding with Rum sauce. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The children were visited not by Saint Nick himself, but by his lovely wife as they forgot to send us Santas' beard. Wonder what they'll forget next year.

After supper everybody went back to the living units once again for some chit-chat.

Then came Disco Dancing. Well we had one little fellow who really could dance up a storm. He was really enthusiastic a few other boys asked him to teach them how to dance. Then more goodies for the children.

As the hours slowly crept by there was a saddness, I can't put down on paper. Everyone in the prison felt it. I'm sure. Then was the time for goodbyes. They're never sweet, but especially not in here.

Well my first family day came with joy and left in sorrow. I'm glad that it came but I'm even more happier that it's gone. This one was nice, but I've so many more to come.

Till next family day. Hope to catch you all again. Take Care, because another family day with it's joys and sorrows is just around the corner.

Editor

P.S. Thanks to the girls who lent a hand on family day even though they themselves had visitors.

Thanks on behalf of the children, Mrs. Santa.

THOUGHTS TO HANG OUT WITH

Submitted by Sue H.

In all his transactions, the superior
man carefully considers the beginning

- J. Ching

what we release can circle;
and, though we are seldom the centre,
each of those circles
enrings us in its absolute curve

- Ranier Maria Rilke

Only when the world becomes a magic circle,
In which each point can be a living
centre,
Then we surmount the cause of all
illusion,
The riddles of rebirth, of death and
dissolution.

- Lama Govinda

Again and again look within your
own mind.

- Padma Sambhava

THOUGHTS TO HANG OUT WITH

Our life is an apprenticeship to the
truth that around every circle another
can be drawn; that there is no end
in nature, but every end is a
beginning, and under every deep a
lower deep opens.

- Emerson

Returning to the source is stillness,
which is the way of nature

- Tao Te Ching

Your end, which is endless, is as a
snowflake dissolving in the pure
air.

- Buddhist saying

You don't see the stars in
the daytime, but
that doesn't mean that
the stars don't exist

- Ramakrishna

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